

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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Notice

NOV 9 '10 AM 10:40

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations, 333 CMR 11.00, to apply herbicides to control vegetation along rights-of-way, a five year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) must be approved by the Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR). National Grid has submitted and holds a current VMP, therefore, notice of receipt of a YOP and procedures for public review is hereby given as required by Section 11.06 (3).

National Grid has submitted a YOP to DAR for 2011 and National Grid's YOP identifies the following municipalities as locations where they intend to use herbicides to treat their electric Rights-of-Way in 2011:

2011 Municipalities		
Abington	Holbrook	Richmond
Andover	Hopedale	Rowley
Attleboro	Lancaster	Salem
Auburn	Lawrence	Seekonk
Avon	Leicester	Sheffield
Belchertown	Lenox	Somerset
Bellingham	Leominster	Southborough
Beverly	Lowell	Southbridge
Boxford	Lynn	Sterling
Bridgewater	Mansfield	Stoughton
Brimfield	Marlborough	Sturbridge
Brockton	Medway	Sutton
Brookfield	Mendon	Swampscott
Charlton	Methuen	Swansea
Cheshire	Middleton	Tewksbury
Clinton	Milford	Topsfield
Danvers	Millbury	Uxbridge
Dighton	Monson	Ware
Easton	North Andover	Warren
Fall River	North Attleborough	West Boylston
Franklin	North Reading	West Bridgewater
Gardner	Norton	West Brookfield
Georgetown	Oxford	West Stockbridge
Great Barrington	Palmer	Whitman
Groveland	Peabody	Worcester
Haverhill	Plainville	Wrentham

The applicant is required to make all corrections and the corrected maps will be sent back to the city/town that requested the disputed changes within fifteen days of receipt of the request. DAR will decide whether or not the YOP should be approved without the requested changes. DAR will consider the "final approval" of a YOP individually for each municipality.

The twenty-one day public review period of the Municipal Notification Letter may serve concurrently with the forty-five day YOP review period in order to provide public notifications as required by 333 CMR 11.06-7, if the applicant has an approved VMP and if all the requisite city-town offices that received copies of the YOP completed their review and all corrections were duly made by the applicant and approved by DAR.

A failure by the city/town to respond to the applicant's submission of the YOP within the forty-five day period will automatically be considered by DAR to indicate agreement by the municipal officials with the sensitive area demarcations provided by the applicant in their YOP.

Any questions or comments on the information provided in this *Notice* and the procedures established for the municipal review outlined above should be addressed to:

Michael McClean
Director of Rights-of-Way Programs
Massachusetts State Pesticide Bureau
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114-2151

Any questions or comments regarding the YOP should be addressed to:

Mariclaire Rigby
Senior Forester, Forestry Strategy
National Grid
40 Sylvan Road
Waltham, MA 02451

COMMENT PERIOD ENDS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON Thursday, December 9, 2010